REMARKS

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103

The claims of the application were rejected either under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated, or under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable, based on the primary reference US Patent application publication 2004/0249423 to Savage.

Applicant has reviewed this reference and note that it cannot be relied upon to support such rejections. In particular, this reference has a filing date of October 24, 2003, which is after applicants' priority and filing dates. Although the Savage document claims priority to a provisional application filed in June, 2003 (available on PAIR), such application does not disclose the subject matter upon which the Examiner has based his rejections.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

In light of the foregoing, applicants submit that the claims remain in a condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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